

**Olin** CHEMICALS

P.O. BOX 248, LOWER RIVER ROAD, CHARLESTON, TN 37310  
PHONE: (615) 336-4000

August 14, 1991

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SOUTH  
SUPERFUND

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Cheryl Walker Smith  
Senior Remedial Project Manager  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
345 Courtland Street Northeast  
Atlanta, Georgia 30365

Re: Sediment Background Sample  
Olin Chemicals/McIntosh Plant Site  
McIntosh, Alabama

Dear Ms. Smith:

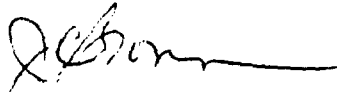
The Sample Analysis Plan (SAP), Volume I of II, Field Sampling Plan, calls for a sediment background sample (page 30). We had intended to collect this upstream of the Basin in a similar setting. A review of maps in the area has led us to conclude that there are no similar settings upstream. William Beal is discussing with Bert Thomas the possibility of designating one sample along the northernmost east-west transect (see Figure 5 in SAP) as the background sample. We believe this is acceptable because the Basin inlet was in the southwestern corner and the outlet in the southern part and it is unlikely that contaminants would have traveled to the northern part. If the sample proves to be contaminated, we would of course not use it as a background. We would then renew our search for a suitable upstream sample. This would not cause any delay in the project.

For determining if the sample is contaminated, we would propose a level higher than 100 ug/kg (ppb) of mercury or any chlorinated benzene compound.

Please approve this change by August 19, 1991, the date the next 10-day field program is scheduled to begin. Please call (615-336-4308) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

OLIN CORPORATION



J. C. Brown  
Manager, Environmental Affairs

jmm